

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 21, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1945

Introduced by Assembly Member Lowenthal

February 15, 2000

An act to amend Sections ~~44670.3 and 44277~~ *44277 and 44670.3* of the Education Code, relating to school development plans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1945, as amended, Lowenthal. School development plans.

(1) Existing law authorizes school districts to establish school development plans for staff development. Existing law requires that staff development activities included in school development plans assist personnel at the local schoolsite to, among other things, improve the school and classroom environments, including working relationships with parents and other community members.

This bill would also require staff development activities included in school development plans to assist personnel at the local schoolsite to develop tolerance programs, as described.

(2) Existing law sets forth certain requirements regarding professional growth for teachers and administrators. Existing law provides that an individual program of professional growth shall consist of a minimum of 150 clock hours of participation in activities that are aligned with the California

Standards for the Teaching Profession that contribute to competence, performance, or effectiveness in the profession of education and the teacher's classroom assignments, and sets forth certain acceptable activities for the fulfillment of the hours.

This bill would provide that a tolerance program established as described in paragraph (1) (2), above, is an acceptable activity for fulfillment of the 150 hour requirement.

The bill would incorporate additional changes in Section 44277 of the Education Code, proposed by SB 1733, to be operative only if SB 1733 and this bill are both chaptered and become effective on or before January 1, 2001, and this bill is chaptered last.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) The diversity in the classrooms of California is
4 increasing. People from more than 140 countries make
5 their homes in California and more than 90 languages are
6 spoken in our public schools.

7 (b) California schools seek mutual respect amidst our
8 differences in race, religion, national origin,
9 socioeconomic status, gender, and other characteristics.

10 (c) The quest for equal treatment in California is more
11 than a goal; it is becoming a necessity in a society in which
12 yesterday's minorities will form tomorrow's majority.

13 (d) Most individuals prosecuted for committing a hate
14 crime against a minority are between the ages of 16 to 20,
15 inclusive.

16 (e) Public schools face a growing need for methods to
17 combat latent and overt offensiveness and potential
18 violence.

19 ~~SEC. 2. Section 44670.3 of the Education Code is~~
20 ~~amended to read:~~

1 ~~44670.3. School development plans authorized by this~~
2 ~~article shall include staff development activities directly~~
3 ~~related to the annual school improvement objectives~~
4 ~~developed in accordance with Section 44670.4, and shall~~
5 ~~assist personnel at the local school site to do the following:~~

6 ~~(a) Improve instructional practices in each subject,~~
7 ~~strengthen subject matter knowledge, and improve~~
8 ~~support services based on a continuing examination of~~
9 ~~instruction and learning in the subject areas offered by~~
10 ~~the school. That examination shall include research, if~~
11 ~~any, based on classroom experience that is conducted by~~
12 ~~teachers in accordance with those research standards and~~
13 ~~procedures that are generally accepted in higher~~
14 ~~education.~~

15 ~~(b) Ensure that subject matter requirements,~~
16 ~~instructional strategies, and instructional materials meet~~
17 ~~uniformly high academic standards and are responsive to~~
18 ~~the diversity among pupil learning needs and styles in a~~
19 ~~multicultural society, including underachieving pupils~~
20 ~~and pupils with exceptional abilities or needs.~~

21 ~~(c) Review, select, and learn to utilize curricula and~~
22 ~~instructional materials in a wide variety of subject areas,~~
23 ~~giving consideration to the state-recommended~~
24 ~~curriculum framework and model curriculum standards~~
25 ~~in each subject matter area.~~

26 ~~(d) Address ways in which educational technology can~~
27 ~~support the instructional program.~~

28 ~~(e) Improve the school and classroom environments,~~
29 ~~including working relationships with parents and other~~
30 ~~community members.~~

31 ~~(f) Develop tolerance programs that capitalize on the~~
32 ~~positive potential of ethnic diversity and offer educators~~
33 ~~solutions for confronting problems generated by a~~
34 ~~multiethnic constituents, with the following goals:~~

35 ~~(1) Building a greater awareness among educators of~~
36 ~~the issues of tolerance and diversity.~~

37 ~~(2) Exposing working professionals to the dynamics of~~
38 ~~prejudice and discrimination that impede effective~~
39 ~~learning.~~

~~(3) Providing a broad range of multicultural viewpoints that may influence relationships among pupils, and between pupils and teachers.~~

~~(4) Providing solutions for conflicts that result from multiethnic disputes.~~

~~(g) Improve pupil attendance.~~

~~SEC. 3.—~~

SEC. 2. Section 44277 of the Education Code is amended to read:

44277. The Legislature recognizes that effective professional growth must continue to occur throughout the careers of all teachers, in order that teachers remain informed of changes in pedagogy, subject matter, and pupil needs. In enacting this section, it is the intent of the Legislature to establish professional growth requirements that give individual teachers a wide range of options to pursue as well as significant roles in determining the course of their professional growth.

(a) The minimum requirements for maintaining the validity of the clear multiple or single subject teaching credential pursuant to Section 44251 shall be both of the following:

(1) Successful service as a classroom teacher or successful service authorized by a services credential. The minimum length of service shall be equivalent to one-half of a school year.

(2) Completion of an individual program of professional growth as prescribed in this section and by the commission.

(b) An individual program of professional growth shall consist of a minimum of 150 clock hours of participation in activities that are aligned with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession that contribute to competence, performance, or effectiveness in the profession of education and the teacher's classroom assignments. Acceptable activities shall be defined by the commission to include, among other acceptable activities, the completion of courses offered by regionally accredited colleges and universities, including instructor-led interactive courses delivered through

1 online technologies; participation in professional
2 conferences, workshops, teacher center programs, staff
3 development programs, or a California Reading
4 Professional Development Program operated pursuant
5 to Article 2 (commencing with Section 99220) of Chapter
6 5 of Part 65; service as a mentor teacher pursuant to
7 Section 44496; participation in school curriculum
8 development projects; participation in systematic
9 programs of observation and analysis of teaching; service
10 in a leadership role in a professional organization;
11 participation in educational research or innovation
12 efforts; and participation in tolerance training as
13 described in Section 44670.3. Employing agencies and
14 employees' bargaining agents may negotiate to agree on
15 the terms of programs of professional growth within their
16 jurisdictions, provided that the agreements shall be
17 consistent with this section.

18 (c) An individual program of professional growth shall
19 be developed and planned by the holder of a clear
20 teaching credential.

21 (d) Effective January 1, 1991, an individual program of
22 professional growth may include a basic course in
23 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which includes training
24 in the subdiaphragmatic abdominal thrust (also known as
25 the "Heimlich maneuver") and meets or exceeds the
26 standards established by the American Heart Association
27 or the American Red Cross for courses in that subject. A
28 teacher's participation in this training option shall count
29 towards the minimum 150 clock hours required to satisfy
30 the professional growth requirements.

31 (e) Before a holder of a clear teaching credential
32 commences or amends an individual program of
33 professional growth, a school principal, a mentor teacher
34 provided for in Section 44496, or other district designee
35 shall certify to the credential holder that the planned
36 program or amendment complies with this section and
37 with regulations of the commission.

38 (f) A clear teaching credential shall be deemed to
39 remain valid so long as the holder of the credential, at
40 five-year intervals, submits to the commission

1 verification by a school principal, a mentor teacher, or
2 other district designee that the holder has satisfied the
3 minimum requirements specified in subdivision (a). In
4 the absence of adequate verification, the commission
5 shall invalidate the credential. Verification by a school
6 principal, a mentor teacher, or other district designee
7 shall be independent of any evaluation of the
8 performance of the holder of the clear teaching
9 credential that is conducted for the purpose of
10 determining the credential holder's employment status.
11 The arbitrary refusal of a school principal, a mentor
12 teacher, or other district designee to verify completion of
13 an individual program of professional growth meeting
14 the requirements of this section and commission
15 regulations shall constitute grounds for an appeal as
16 prescribed in Section 44278.

17 *SEC. 2.5. Section 44277 of the Education Code is*
18 *amended to read:*

19 44277. The Legislature recognizes that effective
20 professional growth must continue to occur throughout
21 the careers of all teachers, in order that teachers remain
22 informed of changes in pedagogy, subject matter, and
23 pupil needs. In enacting this section, it is the intent of the
24 Legislature to establish professional growth
25 requirements that give individual teachers a wide range
26 of options to pursue as well as significant roles in
27 determining the course of their professional growth.

28 (a) The minimum requirements for maintaining the
29 validity of the clear multiple or single subject teaching
30 credential pursuant to Section 44251 shall be both of the
31 following:

32 (1) Successful service as a classroom teacher or
33 successful service authorized by a services credential.
34 The minimum length of service shall be equivalent to
35 one-half of a school year.

36 (2) Completion of an individual program of
37 professional growth as prescribed in this section and by
38 the commission.

39 (b) An individual program of professional growth shall
40 consist of a minimum of 150 clock hours of participation

1 in activities that are aligned with the California Standards
 2 for the Teaching Profession that contribute to
 3 competence, performance, or effectiveness in the
 4 profession of education and the teacher's classroom
 5 assignments. Acceptable activities shall be defined by the
 6 commission to include, among other acceptable
 7 activities, the completion of courses offered by regionally
 8 accredited colleges and universities, including
 9 instructor-led interactive courses delivered through
 10 online technologies; participation in professional
 11 conferences, workshops, teacher center programs, staff
 12 development programs, or a California Reading
 13 Professional Development Program operated pursuant
 14 to Article 2 (commencing with Section 99220) of Chapter
 15 5 of Part 65; service as a mentor teacher pursuant to
 16 Section 44496; participation in school curriculum
 17 development projects; participation in systematic
 18 programs of observation and analysis of teaching; service
 19 in a leadership role in a professional organization; ~~and~~
 20 participation in educational research or innovation
 21 efforts; *and participation in tolerance training as*
 22 *described in Section 44670.3.* Employing agencies and
 23 employees' bargaining agents may negotiate to agree on
 24 the terms of programs of professional growth within their
 25 jurisdictions, provided that the agreements shall be
 26 consistent with this section.

27 (c) An individual program of professional growth shall
 28 be developed and planned by the holder of a clear
 29 teaching credential.

30 (d) Effective January 1, 1991, an individual program of
 31 professional growth may include a basic course in
 32 cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which includes training
 33 in the subdiaphragmatic abdominal thrust (also known as
 34 the "Heimlich maneuver") and meets or exceeds the
 35 standards established by the American Heart Association
 36 or the American Red Cross for courses in that subject *or*
 37 *minimum standards for training programs established by*
 38 *the Emergency Medical Services Authority. Effective*
 39 *January 1, 2001, an individual program of professional*
 40 *growth may also include a course in first aid that meets*

1 *or exceeds the standards established by the American*
2 *Red Cross for courses in that subject or minimum*
3 *standards for training programs established by the*
4 *Emergency Medical Services Authority. A teacher's*
5 *participation in ~~this~~ these training ~~option~~ options shall*
6 *count towards the minimum 150 clock hours required to*
7 *satisfy the professional growth requirements.*

8 (e) Before a holder of a clear teaching credential
9 commences or amends an individual program of
10 professional growth, a school principal, a mentor teacher
11 provided for in Section 44496, or other district designee
12 shall certify to the credential holder that the planned
13 program or amendment complies with this section and
14 with regulations of the commission.

15 (f) A clear teaching credential shall be deemed to
16 remain valid so long as the holder of the credential, at
17 five-year intervals, submits to the commission
18 verification by a school principal, a mentor teacher, or
19 other district designee that the holder has satisfied the
20 minimum requirements specified in subdivision (a). In
21 the absence of adequate verification, the commission
22 shall invalidate the credential. Verification by a school
23 principal, a mentor teacher, or other district designee
24 shall be independent of any evaluation of the
25 performance of the holder of the clear teaching
26 credential that is conducted for the purpose of
27 determining the credential holder's employment status.
28 The arbitrary refusal of a school principal, a mentor
29 teacher, or other district designee to verify completion of
30 an individual program of professional growth meeting
31 the requirements of this section and commission
32 regulations shall constitute grounds for an appeal as
33 prescribed in Section 44278.

34 *SEC. 3. Section 44670.3 of the Education Code is*
35 *amended to read:*

36 44670.3. School development plans authorized by this
37 article shall include staff development activities directly
38 related to the annual school improvement objectives
39 developed in accordance with Section 44670.4, and shall
40 assist personnel at the local school site to do the following:

(a) Improve instructional practices in each subject, strengthen subject matter knowledge, and improve support services based on a continuing examination of instruction and learning in the subject areas offered by the school. That examination shall include research, if any, based on classroom experience that is conducted by teachers in accordance with those research standards and procedures that are generally accepted in higher education.

(b) Ensure that subject matter requirements, instructional strategies, and instructional materials meet uniformly high academic standards and are responsive to the diversity among pupil learning needs and styles in a multicultural society, including underachieving pupils and pupils with exceptional abilities or needs.

(c) Review, select, and learn to utilize curricula and instructional materials in a wide variety of subject areas, giving consideration to the state-recommended curriculum framework and model curriculum standards in each subject matter area.

(d) Address ways in which educational technology can support the instructional program.

(e) Improve the school and classroom environments, including working relationships with parents and other community members.

(f) Develop tolerance programs that capitalize on the positive potential of ethnic diversity and offer educators solutions for confronting problems generated by a multiethnic constituency, with the following goals:

(1) Building a greater awareness among educators of the issues of tolerance and diversity.

(2) Exposing working professionals to the dynamics of prejudice and discrimination that impede effective learning.

(3) Providing a broad range of multicultural viewpoints that may influence relationships among pupils, and between pupils and teachers.

(4) Providing solutions for conflicts that result from multiethnic disputes.

(g) Improve pupil attendance.

1 SEC. 4. Section 2.5 of this bill incorporates
2 amendments to Section 44277 of the Education Code
3 proposed by both this bill and SB 1733. It shall only
4 become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and
5 become effective on or before January 1, 2001, (2) each
6 bill amends Section 44277 of the Education Code, and (3)
7 this bill is enacted after SB 1733, in which case Section 2
8 of this bill shall not become operative.

